

Wisdom in Economy Advocated for Republican Platform

Federal Thrift As Opposed to Willful Waste

Republican Party Advised Against Grandstand Play in Reducing the Expenses, to the Nation's Detriment

Universal Training Cited

Immense Value to Accrue From Compulsory Service Deserves Consideration

To the Editor of the Tribune.
Sir: Many of your correspondents have urged economy as a necessary part of the platform. Some go so far as to say that it is the winning plank. Granted that the public is tired of paying out money faster than it comes in, we must still remember that there are two kinds of economy.

The first of these is the business man's economy. This may be defined as prudent expenditure and thrifty administration. It forbids duplication and waste. At the same time it demands wise investment and far-sighted disbursement with an eye to future saving or returns.
The other variety is the politician's economy. This has for its end not the saving of money, but the advertisement of such saving. It is all grandstand play. It means that large appropriations must be reduced, small items stricken out entirely. Relative merit or necessity is not considered.
A notable example of this is the opposition of the House Republicans to universal military training on the grounds of economy. They choose to disregard the need of this system as a preventive against another war, or as a preparation for one. They overlook the immense value of such training in Americanization and democratization.
On this account your plank must stipulate a wise economy and elimination of waste.
E. D.

Protective Tariff Urged As Industrial Necessity

Republican Party Given Credit for Nation's Development by Creating Prosperity

To the Editor of the Tribune.
Sir: One of the planks that the Republican party must not forget to insert in the national platform is that of the tariff. The tariff, the protective tariff as understood and as it has been used by the Republican Administration—has been the one that built this country industrially. The Republican party has been the party which in the past has believed that the manufacturers of America should be protected against foreign made goods.
The Republican party is the only party that has built this country industrially, and we should trust it to bring back the prosperous times we enjoyed under the administrations of McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt.
This country needs a protective tariff. Let us not forget the years 1912 and 1913, when thousands were out of work because of the advocacy of free trade, which was endorsed by the Democratic party. Had it not been for the war which engaged Europe and gave us employment here, there would be another tale to tell to-day.
JOHN MAZZEI,
New York City, Feb. 5, 1920.

Absence of Stock Phrases

Reader Sends Reminder They May Be Misinterpreted

To the Editor of the Tribune.
Sir: In reading your various planks submitted to your contest I am impressed with the commendable lack of "stock phrases." Let us avoid them as we would the devil. "Square Deal," "Elbow Room," "Make the World Safe for Democracy," etc. How vastly different the interpretations of these trite and well worn party cries. Does the working man construe a "square deal" in the same terms as the capitalist? Is the Bolshevik's idea of a true American that of the ordinary citizen?
The American people are tired of the well rounded and beautiful phraseology of the "school teacher-politicians," that looks so well in print but, when put in practice, leaves one in a maze of awkward predicaments and half promises that cannot possibly be fulfilled.

Out of the thousands of good, bad and indifferent planks submitted I earnestly hope only those will be chosen that state in terms so clear and concise that there can be only one interpretation—the advancement of America, morally, physically and economically.
J. HUNTINGTON RICHARDS.

Conditions of the Platform Contest

The Tribune invites you to write planks for a Republican platform and to write letters about planks proposed by other readers through its columns.

For the best planks and letters The Tribune offers these prizes:
For the best plank.....\$500.00
For the second best plank... 250.00
For each of the eight next best planks 100.00
For the best letter a daily prize of 10.00
For the best letter in the whole competition 100.00

The Tribune will make up a platform of ten planks to be determined by your votes. The ten issues receiving the most votes will be the planks. The ten planks that best express the chosen issues will be selected for the prize awards.

Each plank is limited to 100 words. Of two planks or letters of equal merit the shorter will be chosen.

Every plank and letter must bear the name and address of the sender, although a nom de plume will be published if the writer desires.

The contest will close at midnight, April 30, 1920. Manuscripts will not be returned.

The judges of the contest will be three of The Tribune's editors. They will base their decisions on sound thinking and brevity, clearness and strength of statement.

Some Suggested Planks

Among the mass of suggestions for planks in the Republican platform are the following:

Limits President's Absence

While we are amazed that the President of the United States should assume the responsibility of prolonged absence from the United States during his term of office, we favor the establishment of the principle that such absence for a longer period than three weeks places the incumbency of succession upon the Vice-President.—E. E. Beauchamp, Madison, N. J.

For a Sober Citizenship

We rejoice in the extension of the franchise to women and in the promise therein offered of an equal opportunity for all of the exercise of the privileges of citizenship.—E. E. Beauchamp, Madison, N. J.

Ballots for Women

The Republican party rejoices in the simultaneous achievement of woman suffrage and national prohibition, with the twofold pledge therein contained of a clean ballot and a sober citizenship.—E. E. Beauchamp, Madison, N. J.

American Industries First

We renew our faith in the policy of protection to American labor and industries. America's industrial strength has been fostered by the maintenance of this policy by all Republican administrations. We must safeguard our home market, which is more valuable than the markets of the world. We pledge ourselves to an adequate revision of the tariff in an endeavor to equalize the difference of the cost of production here and abroad and a return to the system of valuation at the time and place of importation for the assessment of duties, the system provided in our first tariff law.—F. B. Hill, 14 Park Street, Brookline, Mass.

Psychology and Free Speech

Recognizing that where fundamentally conflicting philosophies are prevalent the term "free speech" must of necessity have a limited meaning if the integrity of the state is to be preserved, the Republican party proposes to base censorship of speech and press not on political or sentimental grounds but on a fundamental psychological one—namely, the ultimate reaction which any particular utterance will cause—whether it will stimulate along constructive, constitutional lines or merely excite to hasty or ill timed conduct. To determine methods and standards for official action a convention of leading psychologists will be called.—Robbins Russel, 105 West Fortieth Street.

Assimilation of Aliens

Hospitable America cannot place an indiscriminating bar against all immigration. Yet in these days of unrest, when every political insanity has adherents, we must so reasonably limit immigration and so strive to assimilate those now present that all may speedily become true Americans. Naturalization should be required of all who permanently reside here. Ability to speak and read English and unswerving loyalty to our institutions should be indispensable conditions for naturalization. The Federal and state governments must take additional and thorough measures to Americanize every resident.—A. T. Otis, 3 Dusenbury Place, White Plains, N. Y.

Safe and Sane Administration

The Republican party assures the people that, if entrusted with power, it will limit taxation to the actual needs of the government; there shall be no graft, extravagance or waste, and the people's money shall be expended with scrupulous honesty and

the most rigid economy, and, mindful always of the fact that our government was instituted to secure the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, it pledges the nation a safe, sane, efficient and businesslike administration.—W. C. F.

Protect the Home Market

We believe in a fair remuneration for capital, an adequate wage for labor and the maintenance of the American standard of living. We therefore pledge ourselves to protect our home market from low markets abroad by an adequate competitive tariff, so that the fires of American industries may be kept burning.—W. H. Cliff, Hotel Princeton, Boston.

Secretary of Education

As the nation needs better paid teachers and a higher standard of public education, we advocate the appointment of a Secretary of Education. He shall formulate and promote plans for increasing the salaries of teachers in our public schools. He will investigate the material being taught and the textbooks being used, with an end to driving out that which is destructive to our government and replacing it with that which is American.—A. H.

The Right to Organize

We declare labor is entitled to organize for the advancement of its interests and that no man can be compelled to work under conditions unsatisfactory to him, but we deny the right of labor or capital to enforce its demands by acts detrimental to the public's interests. We favor the creation of all controversies between employers and employees engaged in interstate or foreign commerce and the prohibition of any concerted action by employers or employees which would interfere with interstate or foreign commerce, pending a determination of such controversies.—Robert W. Bonyngce.

Summer Liberty Camps

To produce new men with new ideals for new America, we advocate national summer liberty camps. All male Americans eighteen to twenty-one years of age, except those in custody, supporters of families and the physically unfit, shall attend. Five weeks' training for each three summers will include courses in writing and speaking English, duties of citizenship, health and hygiene, first aid, swimming and lifesaving and military training. This will guarantee Americanization, safeguard democracy, provide intelligent citizens and conserve our greatest asset, American manhood.—A. H.

Codify Divorce Laws

To the end of abating a gross evil, the codification of the divorce laws of the United States and its island possessions should receive serious consideration at the hands of the Republican party.—H. V. W. Gent.

The Metric System

To further our world trade relations and to more economically operate our industrial, educational and scientific institutions the adoption of the metric (decimal unit) system of weights and measures is highly desirable.—H. V. W. Gent.

Presidential Vetoes

To obviate the senseless resubmission of Presidentially vetoed legislative enactments to the originating body it is suggested that such shall be submitted to the Supreme Court of the United States for adjudication.—H. V. W. Gent.

Constitutional Amendments

No further amendment should be made to the Constitution that has not been ratified by the votes of a majority of the people.—H. V. W. Gent.

Living Cost Placed First On Platform

Lifelong Republican Sees Sure Success for Party in Firm Stand for Reduction of Prices

Prompt Action Is Urged

Hope for Country Seen in Getting Back Speedily to Pre-War Conditions

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Of paramount importance to the voters in this country to-day is the need for enacting legislation which will not fail to speedily bring about a substantial reduction in the high cost of living, and unless I am very much mistaken a plank in the platform of the Republican party insuring prompt and effective relief from the profiteers responsible for this ever growing menace will be the one to receive the serious consideration of the large majority of the voters and popular support of the masses.

As a lifelong Republican I have faith in the ability of the Republican party to bring about this relief, knowing from its history that it can and will marshal the forces of the brainiest and most talented men in the country in the cause of this vital issue.

It is true that there are other momentous issues facing the American people to-day, but it is a positive fact that if the men of ordinary means, whose wives and families to support, whose yearly incomes are nearly all or wholly wiped out by the ever increasing cost of living, do not receive sufficient assurance in advance from the leaders of the Republican party that this matter will be given first consideration, the faith which they have and have had in this great party in years gone by will be badly shaken.
We have simply got to get back to a pre-war basis as quickly as possible. As for myself, I have the courage to believe that this result can best be brought about by the success of the Republican party in which we have our hopes and expectations.
C. M. P.

Forty-eight-Hour Week for Labor and 300,000 Army

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In reply to the plank in Saturday's Tribune I wish to state the following:
We should have a high tariff to protect American manufacturers, bring down high cost of living, make an agreement with Mexico, abolish prohibition, live up to the Monroe Doctrine, not join the league of nations, make labor and capital agree, make a forty-eight-hour week for all laborers, have a standing army of 300,000 men and last but not least, have the greatest navy in the world.
SOLOMON WOLFSHEIMER,
Flatiron Building, New York.

Anti-Saloon Rule Of Liberty Urged

While we in theory subscribe to the principles laid down in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States, that all men have certain inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, we believe that the great majority of the American people are entitled to enjoy the blessings of liberty and self-government, and therefore recommend the adoption of a constitutional amendment giving the Anti-Saloon League power to prescribe what measure of liberty the people may have.
WHIDDEN GRAHAM,
830 West End Avenue.

To-Day's Prize Letter

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The abysmal inequalities in educational opportunity among the various states are a shock to our national spirit. The value of school property varies from \$4 a child in Mississippi to \$115 in Massachusetts. The annual expenditure a child ranges from \$3 in South Carolina to \$32 in Washington. In Massachusetts the average child is in school 131 days a year, in New Mexico 47. In New Mexico the schools are open only 100 days out of 365.

In six states there is no state-wide compulsory attendance law whatever. In New Hampshire one-tenth of the public school population is in high school, while in West Virginia only one-fourth-seventh are high school pupils. The average teacher's salary in ten states is less than \$300.

These astounding facts (all taken from Russell Sage Foundation Bulletin 124) indicate the desirability of Federal action for the establishment of a minimum standard of excellence in all these and other particulars. Large annual appropriations

should be divided by the Bureau of Education on a per capita basis to every state meeting these requirements.

This practice would soon give us reasonable equality in educational opportunity and something like a national school standard of which Americans everywhere could be proud.

With such a plan in operation we would no longer have obscure pest-holes of ignorance, where every manner of political insanity could develop. The light of knowledge is a great enemy of unrest.
A. T. OTIS.

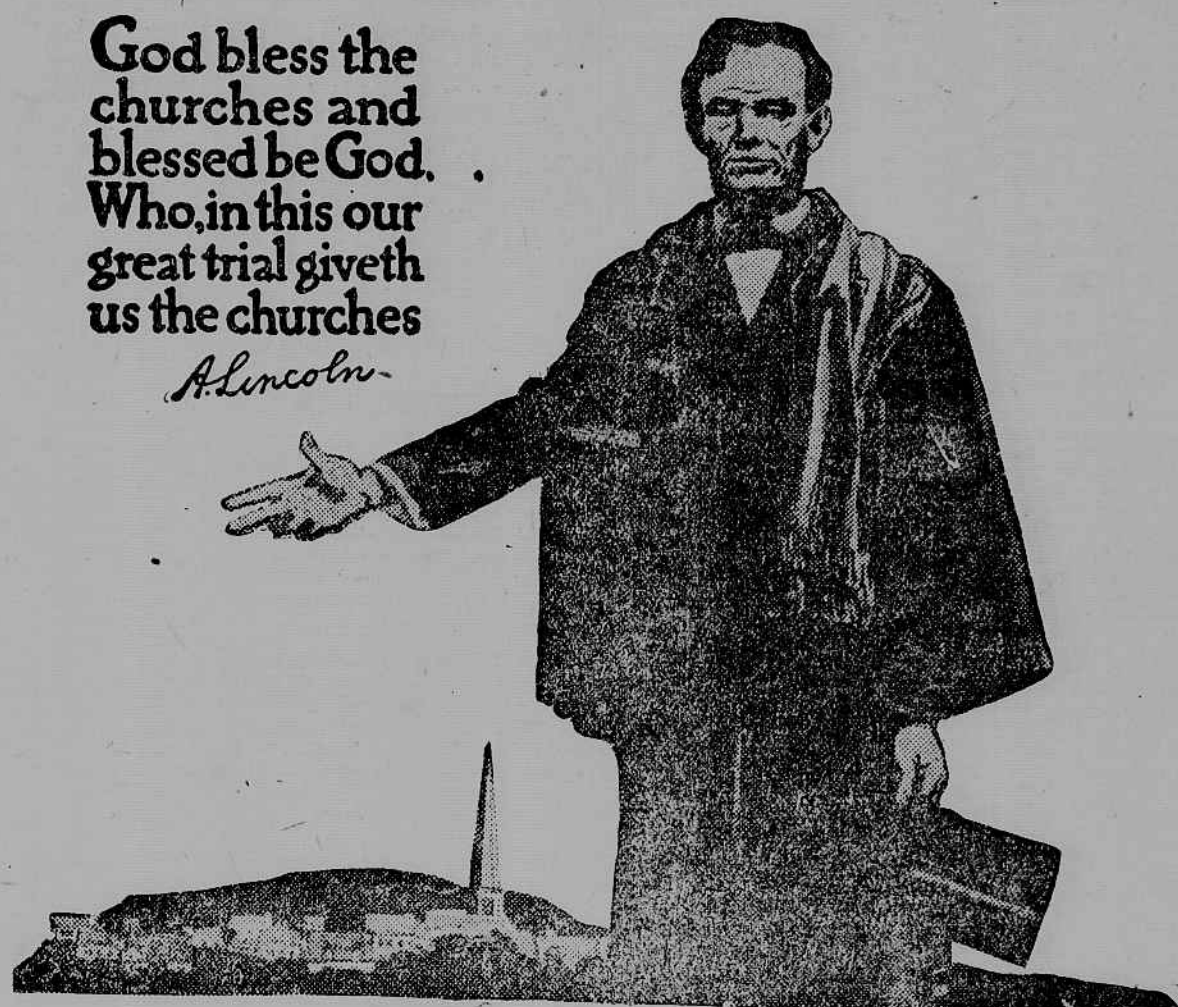
Laboring Class Declared Main Prop of Government

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: There is nothing which all of us have more at heart than the prosperity of our own country and the perpetuity of our free institutions. The safety of our institutions consists in the virtue and good sense of the mass of the people.

No man is worthy the name of patriot or statesman who countenances a policy which is opposed to the interests of the laboring and industrial classes. They sustain our free institutions; they carry forward our public enterprises; they build our ships, our railroads, cultivate our fields and fight our battles in war.
SAMUEL DUNLOP,
532 Magie Street, Elizabeth, N. J.

God bless the churches and blessed be God. Who, in this our great trial giveth us the churches

A. Lincoln



Steward of Almighty God

What was the secret of Lincoln's power? He revealed it once in a letter to a personal friend:

"I hold myself as an instrument of Providence. I have my own views and purposes. I have my convictions of duty and my notions of what is right.

"But I am conscious at every moment that all that I am, all that I have is subject to the control of a Higher Power."

"An instrument of Providence"—a steward of Almighty God—in that conviction lay his mastery.

To promote a wider consideration of the claims of Christian stewardship, both inside the churches and out, the Protestant denominations of America have set aside February, the month of Lincoln and Washington, as Christian Stewardship

Month, climaxing on Sunday, Feb. 22, as nationwide Stewardship Acknowledgment Sunday.

These are fundamentals of Stewardship:

1. The recognition that life and all its possessions are a trust from Almighty God.
2. The determination to execute this trust by setting aside a certain definite first proportion of time and income in His name and for His work.

America's problems are spiritual and must find their final solution in the increase of the spirit of Lincoln.

The spirit of Christian stewardship that subordinates selfishness to service, and asks not: "How much can I get?" but "How much can I give?"

Will you dedicate some definite proportion of your income to His cause?

Interchurch Calendar

February

Christian Stewardship Educational Period:
February 21, Stewardship Acknowledgment Sunday;
February 29, Life Service Ballot Sunday.

March

Pre-Easter Period for the deepening of the spiritual life, Evangelism and the Enlistment of Life Recruits.

April

April 4, Easter Sunday, John the Baptist Day.

For full information and helps for Pastors, Sunday School Superintendents and Women's and Young People's Societies write the

Stewardship Department

The INTERCHURCH World Movement of North America

45 WEST 18th STREET, NEW YORK CITY

Abraham Lincoln

THE SPIRIT of no other American touches our national life and the individual lives of our people as potently as does that of Abraham Lincoln.

It is well said that the greatness of Lincoln and his peculiar hold upon the sympathies and imaginations of men, lay not so much in the possession of unusual genius as in the remarkable combination and strength of ordinary qualities. Nowhere can we find so rare a blending of exalted idealism, honest courage, broad human kindness and practical common sense.

Nowhere can we turn today more profitably for guidance in the vexing political and industrial problems confronting us than to the ideals of unselfish service and courageous faith in his fellow men, that made up the homely philosophy of this great American.

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